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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,622	11/18/2003	Xian-Ping Lu	4865-105 US	4873
7590	12/02/2005		EXAMINER COLEMAN, BRENDA LIBBY	
Patrick H. Higgins 997 Lenox Drive Building 3 Lawrenceville, NJ 08648			ART UNIT 1624	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/715,622

Applicant(s)

LU ET AL.

Examiner

Brenda L. Coleman

Art Unit

1624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-23, drawn to the compounds, compositions, process of preparing and method of use of the compounds of formula (I) where X is a bond, ring A is benzene and ring B is benzene, classified in class 548, subclass 444.
- II. Claims 1-23, drawn to the compounds, compositions, process of preparing and method of use of the compounds of formula (I) where X is CH₂CH₂ or CH=CH, ring A is benzene and ring B is benzene, classified in class 540, subclass 587.
- III. Claims 1-23, drawn to the compounds, compositions, process of preparing and method of use of the compounds of formula (I) where X is an oxygen atom, ring A is benzene and ring B is benzene, classified in class 544, subclass 102.
- IV. Claims 1-23, drawn to the compounds, compositions, process of preparing and method of use of the compounds of formula (I) where X is a sulfur atom, ring A is benzene and ring B is benzene, classified in class 544, subclass 35.
- V. Claims 1 and 8-23, drawn to the compounds, compositions, process of preparing and method of use of the compounds of formula (I) where X is

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NR⁶, ring A is benzene and ring B is benzene, classified in class 544, subclass 347.

- VI. Claims 1-23, drawn to the compounds, compositions, process of preparing and method of use of the compounds of formula (I) where X, ring A and ring B are other than that set forth in Groups I-V above, classified in classes 540-548, various subclasses within.
- VII. Claims 24-28, drawn to the method of use of the complex compositions of formula (I), which includes an additional active ingredient, classified in class 514, various subclasses within.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups I-VI are directed to structurally dissimilar compounds such that the variable core created by the varying definitions of X, ring A and ring B in formula (I) do not belong to a recognized class of chemical compounds in the art, and references anticipating one invention, would not render obvious the others, for example a carbazole is different from dibenzoazepine, phenzaine, phenoxazine, phenothiazine, etc. Thus, separate searches in the literature as well as in the U.S. Patent Classification System would be required. Each group's compounds are made and used independently of each other and could support separate patents. The compounds differ significantly in chemical structures. One skilled in the art would not consider such diverse structures as functional equivalents of each other. The mere fact that there is a single similarity is not in itself a significant reason to render the whole embodiment obvious.

Groups I-VI and VII are directed to the method of use of the compounds of formula (I) and complex composition, which includes the compounds of Groups I-VI and an additional active ingredient.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions anticipated by the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Tentative election of a single species within the elected group is further required.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

If Groups VI or VII are elected further restriction may be required.


Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim

remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brenda L. Coleman whose telephone number is 571-272-0665. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Brenda L. Coleman
Primary Examiner Art Unit 1624
November 28, 2005